

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing requested amendments and in view of the reasons that follow. Applicants respectfully assert that entry of the requested amendments would place the application in condition for allowance. Alternatively, entry of the requested amendments would place the application in better form for consideration on appeal.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier. After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-4 and 9-17 are now pending in this application for consideration.

The only outstanding rejection remaining in the present application is to claims 1-4 and 9-17 as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. As amended, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 and claims dependent therefrom satisfy the requirements set forth by 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2, based on the following remarks.

Applicants would like to first point out that claim 15 is in independent form. As such, the comments on page 2, second paragraph of the Office Action do not apply to independent claim 15. With respect to independent claim 1, the Office Action states that the phrase “the second low porosity layer being formed and laminated on the second low porosity layer” is confusing. Applicants respectfully submit that an error was made in amending independent apparatus claim 1 in the previous response of June 26, 2006. Claim 1 should have been amended to recite:

“the second low porosity layer being formed and laminated on the first low porosity layer, with the electrolyte layer being formed and laminated on the second low porosity layer”

This error is made clear by the fact that corresponding independent method claim 15 was correctly amended in the response of June 26, 2006 to recite:

“a second low porosity layer formed and laminated on the first low porosity layer, and the electrolyte layer being formed on the second low porosity layer”

Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been introduced and no new issues have been raised by the amendments to claim 1, that require further consideration and/or search because the arrangement of the second low porosity layer being formed and laminated on the first low porosity layer and the electrolyte layer being formed on the second low porosity layer was previously presented in the response of June 26, 2006.

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 as well as dependent claims 2-4 and 9-14 are in full compliance with the requirements set forth by 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2 and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection. With respect to independent claim 15 and dependent claims 16 and 17, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of these claims is improper as noted above and respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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